Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter

Volume 10, Number 2

February 2008

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February 2, 2008 / le 2 fevrier, 2008

Welcome to the February 2008 edition of the Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter.

Bienvenue a l'édition de fevrier 2008 de "Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter".

Sheldon Harvey
Owner, Radio H.F.
Editor/Publisher, Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter

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RADIO H.F.
CANADA'S SPECIALIST IN SHORTWAVE, SCANNING, AMATEUR RADIO, ANTENNAS, ACCESSORIES AND PUBLICATIONS SINCE 1995, AND CANADA'S NEWEST DISTRIBUTOR OF NATURE BOOKS, BRINGS THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOU, FREE OF CHARGE. CONTACT RADIO H.F. AT:

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HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday to Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM (Eastern)
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http://www.radiohf.ca

Previous issues of this newsletter, from February 1999 to April 2005, may be found at the following URL:
http://www.anarc.org/cidx/radiohf/index.html

Subsequent editions, including the most recent, may be found at:

THE RADIO H.F. INTERNET NEWSLETTER YAHOO GROUP

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hfnewsletter/

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hfnewsletter@...

DISCLAIMER: The contents of web sites featured in this newsletter are those of the individuals, groups or organizations responsible for each web site. They do not necessarily represent those of the editor, or the contributor, unless specifically noted.

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Welcome to the February 2008 edition of the Radio HF Internet Newsletter. 2008 is a leap year. What will you be doing with that extra day this year? Just think; you'll have a whole 24 extra hours at your disposal!

I look at February 29th as just one extra day of winter! It's been a tough one so far here in Montreal. Mother Nature hit us with another storm on February 1, this time with ice pellets and freezing rain mixed with the snow. Hopefully things are more pleasant where you are.

As you know, I am a very avid birdwatcher. Included in this Newsletter is a link to one of the major bird related citizen science projects each year; the Great Backyard Bird Count. I included this site with the hope that some of you may choose to get involved. It's easy to do, and lots of fun as well.

In this month's Newsletter, the Monthly Special Zone features sites dealing with Leap Year, Darwin Day, Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday, St. Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras and Carnival; a big agenda for the shortest month. I also happy to report that the Internet source I use for the special days and events that was missing in the January issue has returned this month.

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THE COMMENTS ZONE

No comments this month.

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THE CONTRIBUTORS ZONE

Thank you to our 8 contributors this month.

Skip Arey, Beverly, New Jersey
Ragnar Daneskjold, ???
Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec
Ed Insinger, Summit, New Jersey
I. Plumber, Owen Sound, Ontario
Jerry Proc, Toronto, Ontario
Richard Sim, Goose Bay, Labrador & Newfoundland
Elmer Standish, Courtenay, British Columbia

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THE MONTHLY SPECIAL ZONE

LEAP YEAR DAY

http://www.leapyearday.com/

This fun page is dedicated to all sorts of things relating to February 29th, Leap Year Day.

DARWIN DAY

http://www.darwinday.org/

Darwin Day is an international celebration of science and humanity held on or around February 12, the day that Charles Darwin was born on in 1809. Specifically, it celebrates the discoveries and life of Charles Darwin -- the man who first described biological evolution via natural selection with scientific rigor. More generally, Darwin Day expresses gratitude for the enormous benefits that scientific knowledge, acquired through human curiosity and ingenuity, has contributed to the advancement of humanity. The Darwin Day Celebration website provides resources and publicity for individuals and institutions across the world to celebrate science and humanity every year, on, or near, February 12, Darwin's birthday.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

http://www.chinapage.com/newyear.html

By the Chinese calendar 2008 is the Year of the Rat, also known by its former name of Wu Zi. It begins this year on February 7.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DAY

http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/customs/shrove.html

Shrove Tuesday is the last day before the period which Christians call Lent. This day is one of the moveable feasts in the church calendar.

HISTORY.COM'S HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

http://www.history.com/minisites/valentine/

Every February 14th, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday?

MARDI GRAS NEW ORLEANS

http://www.mardigras.com/

As New Orleans continues to recover from Hurricane Katrina, the annual celebration carries on. Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, is the final day of Carnival, which begins on the Feast of the Epiphany, Jan. 6.
Also known as Kings' Day or Twelfth Night, Jan. 6 celebrates the arrival of the three kings at Jesus' birthplace, thus ending the Christmas season. And in New Orleans, simultaneously starting Carnival. This festival of fun finds its roots in various pagan celebrations of spring, dating back 5,000 years.

CARNIVAL IN RIO

http://www.ipanema.com/carnival/allaboutcarnival.htm

Carnival is Rio de Janeiro's main event. It happens at the peak of summer, when Cariocas are at their best. Festivities attract thousands of people from all corners of the world. Carnaval, as spelled in Portuguese, is a 4-day celebration. It starts on Saturday, and ends on Fat Tuesday, or Mardi-Gras.Carnival Sunday is seven weeks before Easter Sunday. Dates change every year. in 2008 it happens from February 2 through 5.

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THE FEBRUARY ZONE

Each month we feature the monthly page from Wikipedia, the free, on-line encyclopedia.
The page features an overview of the month, plus background and general information on the month itself. The actual monthly calendar, clickable day by day, gives a list of special events in history, famous birthdays, anniversaries, etc. for each day.
Here is the link for the month of February.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/February

Also, here are some special days in February.

MONTHLY CELEBRATIONS

Low Vision Awareness Month
National African American History Month
National Bird Feeding Month

WEEKLY CELEBRATIONS

10-16 Freelance Writers Appreciation Week
14-21 National Condom Week
16-23 National Future Farmers of America Week
24 Mar 1 National Eating Disorders Awareness Week

SPECIAL DAYS

2 Groundhog Day
5 International Pancake Day
5 Shrove Tuesday
5 Mardi Gras Begins Fat Tuesday
5 Mexico: Constitution Day
6 Ash Wednesday
6 Mar 22 Lent
6 National Girls and Women in Sports Day
7 Chinese New Year
12 Darwin Day
12 Lincoln's Birthday
14 St. Valentine's Day
17 Random Acts of Kindness Day
24 Mexico: Flag Day

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

10 16 Jell-O Week
11 17 International Flirting Week
11 Man Day
11 Satisfied Staying Single Day
20 National Pancake Day

Sources:
Chase's Calendar of Events 2008
California Department of Education, 2008 Calendar of Events.
Earth Calendar
National Safety Council, 2008 Safety Observance Calendar
UN Special Observances and Days

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RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE

NEW KENWOOD TM-V71 DUAL BAND MOBILE

This new mobile FM Dual bander is compatible with EchoLink radio VoIP system, enabling communications with all amateur radio operators around the world. This rig offers 50 watt rf power output, 1,000 multifunction memory channels, dual receive on same band (vxv, uxu), echolink memory (automatic dialer), echolink sysop mode for node terminal operation, multiple scan, invertible front panel, a choice of 2 backlight colours (amber/green) for the lcd panel, 104-code digital code squelch, and "five-in-one" programmable memory.

For complete details on this radio, please visit Kenwood's page at
http://www.kenwood.ca/Communications/Amateur_Radio/Mobiles/TM-V71A

Kenwood products are available from Radio HF.

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THE RADIO ZONE

WINTER SWL FESTIVAL

http://swlfest.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This annual convention, celebrating 21 years in 2008, is the largest gathering of listeners to the radio spectrum longwave, mediumwave, shortwave (broadcast, utilities, pirates), VHF/UHF, FM, scanners, television and satellites in the United States, perhaps the world. Join in the fun and festivities, March 7th and 8th. All the details are here.

SCANNER SCUM

http://www.scannerscum.com/

VIA Skip Arey, Beverly, New Jersey

Who are the Scanner Scum? While the title Scanner Scum indicates that members of the group have an affinity for monitoring signals above 30 MHz, as a group the Scum cover all bands, modes and frequencies in the radio spectrum. If it's out there we can hear it...end of discussion! Check out this elite group of radio hobbyists. Regular updates on the Winter SWL Festival are also found on their page.

RADIO LOVERS

http://www.radiolovers.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

We offer hundreds of vintage radio shows for you to listen to online in mp3 format, all for free.

NOSTALGIA DIGEST

http://www.nostalgiadigest.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The Nostalgia Digest Magazine brings you lots of articles about the Golden Age of radio... the glory days of motion pictures... the big band era... recollections of growing up in gentler times... and photos of your favorite performers.

RADIO JAMMING

http://cbc.am/jamming.pdf

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This article entitled Radio Jamming in the Soviet Union, Poland and other Eastern European countries, features a profile of the various types of jamming used by these nations to block out radio broadcasts aimed at shortwave listeners. The article contains excellent

photographs of the stations, equipment, antenna installations, etc.

THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO WEEK TESTS

http://earlyradiohistory.us/inter.htm

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

In the mid-twenties the public experienced the thrill of receiving distant radio signals on the recently established AM broadcast band. This is a review of how the drive for ever greater distances culminated in a unique series of international tests.

H.M. WIRELESS STATION MOUNT PEARL, NEWFOUNDLAND

http://www.nfld.com/~sirjames/history.htm

VIA Jerry Proc, Toronto, Ontario

The wireless telegraphy station at Mount Pearl was first proposed by the British Admiralty on June 27, 1914 and became fully operational on September 16, 1915. This facility was one of thirteen wireless stations erected at the same time by the Marconi Company for the British Navy to improve its war time intelligence gathering and weather reporting capabilities.

HAMIGG

http://hamigg.de/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Inspired by a project called "SEOigg", which is special topic social bookmarking platform, Christian Buenger, DL6KAC, of Germany, started to work on a project called "HAMigg". HAMigg is a social bookmarking platform similar to digg.com but limited to ham radio or technical topics.

RF PROGRAMS

http://shortwavepirate.info/RFPrograms/wordpress/

VIA Ragnar Daneskjold, ???

RF Programs provides many of your favorite shortwave and free media shows such as DXing with Cumbre, World of Radio, DX Partyline, This Week in Amateur Radio, etc., all located in one convenient place.

PIRATE'S WEEK

http://www.piratesweek.info/

VIA Ed Insinger, Summit, New Jersey

Pirate's Week, with Ragnar Daneskjold, is a podcast serving the shortwave pirate community with weekly pirate radio news, off air recordings, Free Radio Network updates, and more.

U.S. MILITARY PORTABLE RADIOS

http://www.nj7p.org/history/portable.html

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This page, by Alan D. Tasker, WA1NYR, is the story of the progress that the U.S. Military has made over the past sixty years in mainstream portable voice communications radios, with a concentration on the later, more convenient-to-use units. The article is followed by a rebuttal by Dennis Starks.

REAL RADIOS HAVE MOTORS

http://www.hypertools.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This page features a brief selection of some interesting, perhaps unusual, possibly noteworthy, or maybe just plain goofy military manpack radios.

SIGNAL CORPS MUSEUM, FORT GORDON, GEORGIA

http://www.gordon.army.mil/ocos/museum/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The mission of the U.S. Army Signal Corps Museum and Fort Gordon is to function as a permanent historical and educational institution at Fort Gordon, providing training and education to the soldiers, military dependents at Fort Gordon and to the general public on all aspects of the history of the Signal Corps, the development of Fort Gordon and vicinity, and the U.S. Army.

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RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE

ALPHA DELTA COMMUNICATIONS

Alpha Delta, of Manchester, Kentucky, produces an extensive line of unique products for commercial, amateur and military radio applications. Whether it's their limited space high performance amateur antennas, surge protectors, coax switches, or their popular DX-Sloper shortwave receiving antnenna, you can count on the quality and reputation of Alpha Delta. ALL Alpha Delta products are proudly made in the U.S.A. in their ISO-9001 certified production facility, to ensure highest quality.

Radio HF is now proud to be an authorized dealer for all Alpha Delta products. To see the complete line of products available, please visit their webpage at

http://www.alphadeltacom.com/index.html

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THE GENERAL ZONE

SOVIET MEMORIES

http://www.sovietmemories.it/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The goal of this project is to save and preserve through advanced multimedia contents, the memory of women and men who lived in the USSR between 1917 and 1991.

GLOBAL INCIDENT MAP

http://www.globalincidentmap.com/home.php

VIA Richard Sim, Goose Bay, Labrador & Newfoundland

This page presents a global display of terrorism and other suspicious events.

VACCINATION RISK AWARENESS NETWORK

http://www.vran.org/

VIA I. Plumber, Owen Sound, Ontario

Here's a website that sounds the warning about the dangers of vaccinations, as per the sordid history of what happened to whole populations of people, due to vaccination programs etc.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

http://www.audubon.org/gbbc/index.shtml

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Whether your are seriously into birds, like me, or not, here is a short 4-day project that just about everyone can have fun with, and play an important part in citizen science at the same time. February 15 to 18 bird watchers all across North America will be participating in the 11th annual event. In 2007, citizen scientists across the U.S. and Canada counted more than 11 million birds and tallied 616 species, submitting 80,000 checklists, exceeding the previous record of 61,000 checklists in 2000 by 33 percent!

THE CRIME LIBRARY

http://www.crimelibrary.com

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The Crime Library is a rapidly growing collection of more than over 600 non-fiction feature stories on major crimes, criminals, trials, forensics and criminal profiling by prominent writers. The stories focus mostly on recent crimes, but an expanding collection also delves into historically notorious characters, dating back to the 1400s and spanning the globe.

HYPNOSIS ONLINE

http://hypnosisonline.com

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Our site is a collection of articles and information about Hypnosis, Self-Hypnosis, Hypnosis Training, as well as Hypnosis related products and services for the public and the Hypnosis Professional.

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RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE

WHAT'S NEW IN BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS FROM THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY

LEAGUE, THE RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, and other publishers?

ARRL'S VHF DIGITAL HANDBOOK - by Steve Ford, WB8IMY

Ham radio operators are using digital radio applications for fun, technical achievement, and public service. And it's no wonder. Getting started often requires little more than a VHF radio and a computer. Without complicated "owners manual" jargonARRL's VHF Digital Handbook presents the material through a unique how-to approach and friendly, conversational style. Readers will understand how to setup and operate their equipment and software, and make the best use of their VHF digital station.

First edition, © 2008, published by American Radio Relay League, Inc. (ISBN: 0-87259-122-0) #1220 - $19.95 Canadian or U.S.
Coming in early March!

ARRL'S HANDS-ON RADIO EXPERIMENTS - by H. Ward Silver, NØAX
Here are 61 short electronics experiments, designed to increase your understanding of basic radio fundamentals, components, circuits and design:
Radio and Electronic Fundamentals
Semiconductor Basics
Building Block Circuits
Power Supplies
Filters
Oscillators and Buffers
Transmission Lines & Impedance Matching
Workshop & Design Techniques
Includes a complete parts list!
These experiments, devised by H. Ward Silver, NØAX, first appeared in QST magazine's "Hands-On Radio" column from 2003-2008. The collection covers a wealth of topics designed to educate today's radio experimenters, and inspire others who want to learn what makes their radios work. Even seasoned experts will encounter new approaches to practical methods, new explanations for familiar topics and new ideas that will enhance your understanding of the radio art. Step-by-step, Silver expertly leads you through each experimentand you'll make discoveries along the way!
© 2008, published by American Radio Relay League, Inc. (ISBN: 0-87259-125-5) #1255 - $19.95 Canadian or U.S.
Coming in early March!

WORLD WAR II RADIO HEROES: LETTERS OF COMPASSION - by Lisa Spahr
WWII Radio Heroes: Letters of Compassion is a story about ham radio operators and others alerting families of POWs during a time of war. The book features more than 30 letters and postcards sent to the author's family in 1943, notifying them of her grandfather's capture and status as a prisoner of war. Upon discovering these letters, Ms. Spahr, began researching the people who did this, and why, and reached out to find them or their next of kin, more than 60 years after the fact. Her journey is detailed in WWII Radio Heroes.
76 pages. © 2008, Intrigue Publishing - (ISBN: 978-0-9762181) #1268 - $15.95 Canadian or U.S.
Coming Soon!

Please visit the Radio HF webpage at http://www.radiohf.ca/publications.htm for a complete catalog of all books, publications and CD-Roms available. A new, completely updated catalog is now available on the site.

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THE FUN & SERVICES ZONE

BBS MATES

http://www.bbsmates.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

On this website, you can search a list of 75,000 BBSs that existed from the 80's to present! If you were a sysop, look for your old BBS or add it if it's not already in the database. Add yourself as a member to BBSs that you called. Find members that you used to chat and game with!

COMPUTER HOPE

http://www.computerhope.com

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Computer Hope is a collection of free services that allows any user to access its database of extensive free computer related information. With these resources available, Computer Hope has become a popular destination for end-users as well as computer support facilities for answering computer related questions.

LOST AND FOUND

http://www.lostandfound.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Welcome to The Internet Lost and Found, the premier information resource for the recovery of lost and found articles and pets.

SUPERBOWL ADS

http://www.superbowl-ads.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Every year businesses spend huge amounts of money to create and air new, high-profile commercials to appear on the annual NFL Superbowl game. This site looks back at some of the best, and the worst, from years gone by.

ODDEE

http://www.oddee.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

Welcome to Oddee! With more than 2 million readers per month, Oddee serves quality entertainment focused on the oddities of our world. Be amazed!

RULES OF THUMB

http://rulesofthumb.org/

VIA Elmer Standish, Courtenay, British Columbia

The goal of this website is to gather every rule of thumb on earth into one gargantuan, easily searchable online reference database that will be accessible from anywhere in the world and continue to grow forever.

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THE 2008 HAMFEST/FLEAMARKET ZONE

Each month we list upcoming events, including hamfests, predominantly in Canada. NOTE: All times quoted are local. (Compiled by Vernon Ikeda VE2QQ, Pierrefonds, Quebec, and Radio Amateurs of Canada)

Saturday, February 23
Burlington Amateur Radio Club Fleamarket, 828 Legion Road, Burlington, Ontario
Vendors 7 a.m.; Public 9 a.m.
Tables: $10.00 each
Information: John Greven, VE3LEC, 249 Camelot Dr
Burlington, ON L7L 2E9
Talk-in: 147.120+; Tone 131.8
E-mail: john@...
Web: http://www.barc.ca/Spring%20Fleamarket.htm

Saturday, March 29
Club Radioamateur de Laval-Laurentides Hamfest, Laval, Quebec
Location: Polyvalente Georges-Vanier, 3995 boul. Levesque East, Laval, QC
Vendors: 7:45 am; Public: 9 am
Admission: $5; tables $10
Information & reservations: TEL: 514-708-8033
E-mail: hamfest2008@...
Web: http://www.ve2crl.qc.ca/hamfest2008.pdf
RADIO HF WILL BE THERE

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*****RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE*****

RADIO HF GIFT CERTIFICATES

Gift certificates are a great idea if you're not sure what that special person is looking for. Radio HF is offering gift certificates available in any denomination. Please contact Radio HF for details.

RADIO H.F. NATURE BOOKS DIVISION

The Radio H.F. Nature Division offers hundreds of specialty books in the fields of birding, animals, plants, etc. A complete listing of the titles is available on the new Radio H.F. web page at http://www.radiohf.ca. Simply click on the Canada goose!

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THE RESOURCES ZONE

The following is a listing of clubs, groups, radio broadcasts and other resources that may be of interest to you.

THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DX CLUB (CIDX)

CIDX is Canada's national radio monitoring club, serving radio hobbyists since 1962. Our monthly newsletter, MESSENGER, now published electronically, covers all aspects of the radio monitoring hobby.

SPECIAL OFFER: To all Radio HF Internet Newsletter subscribers, a FREE sample of our monthly CIDX electronic newsletter, MESSENGER, (in .PDF format) is available to you for the asking. Just send along an e-mail to cidxclub@..., with a valid return e-mail address and you'll receive your copy by return e-mail. Our February 2008 edition, 66 pages, is now available. Membership, at the low cost of $10 per year, is open to radio hobbyists worldwide.

CIDX is working on its new webpage. The update is far from complete, but you are welcome to visit the new page. Watch for new information and developments on the page shortly.

http://www.cidx.ca

PRIME TIME SHORTWAVE

Prime Time Shortwave is a listing of English shortwave broadcast that are updated on a weekly basis by webmasters Daniel Sampson and Ernest Riley. The schedules are constantly updated from various print and internet sources as well as from monitoring by the webmaster and other shortwave listeners and DXers. The shortwave schedules are available by time, country and frequency format. Also, they are available in ASCII, DBase, Excel and PalmOS formats (Dan Lyddy creates the PalmOS file). You will also find links to some of the best radio related websites and to the international broadcasters and time conversion charts (some provided by Craig Braun). Please visit the Prime Time Shortwave webpage at

http://www.primetimeshortwave.com/

THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO REPORT

The International Radio Report, beginning its 20th year on CKUT-FM, 90.3 FM in Montreal, is available via the Internet live streaming, and on the airwaves of CKUT, Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM Eastern (1530 UTC). The show's co-hosts, Janice and Steve Karlock, present a weekly half-hour of news, information and developments in radio broadcasting. Visit the CKUT web page for full CKUT programming:

http://www.ckut.ca

You may listen to archived editions of the programme through the CKUT web site. Send your comments or questions to the International Radio Report, by e-mail, to radioreport@yahoo.com

RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL

Radio Canada International is Canada's shortwave broadcaster. The new broadcast schedules for the winter broadcast season (28 October 2007 to 8 March 2008) have been posted on the Schedules and Frequencies page of the RCI webpage at the following address:

http://www.rcinet.ca/rci/en/horaires.shtml

You will also find the schedules for three 24-hour per day satellite channels on the HotBird satellite (Europe/North Africa/Middle East), the RCI Plus channel on Sirius Satellite Radio and the live RCI Viva service available on the website.

Stay in touch with Canada via Radio Canada International.

That is all for this month. Radio H.F. is a mail order, telephone and on line business, with great products, great prices, and personalized service, serving the radio community since 1995. Be sure to visit the Radio H.F. web site at

http://www.radiohf.ca

Please feel free to submit any information for the Newsletter by e-mail to hfnewsletter@....

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Best wishes and 73 from

Sheldon Harvey, VE2SHW
Owner - Radio H.F.
Canada's specialist in radio communications and Canada's newest nature book distributor.
http://www.radiohf.ca

President-Canadian International DX Club
Canada's national radio monitoring club since 1962
http://www.cidx.ca

Enjoy birds and bird watching? Visit Bird Protection Quebec, Quebec's largest and oldest birding club, at:
http://www.birdprotectionquebec.org

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